

You're listening to SkippyCast, I'm David McFee

Skippycast is a podcast about Hobolike Travel. Welcome to the first program. And if you're thinking, have I heard that intro before, and you've been listening to podcasts since 2005, well, you probably have. It's Dennis Murphy's Ploka by the band Tom Joad and it was the intro used by Robert Butler throughout the duration of his show Trailcast. For those unfamiliar, Bob Butler produced one of the first hiking podcasts, along with Bob Cartwright's Backpackinglight.co.uk (Now called the Outdoors Station) Steve Sergeant's The WildeBeat, Bernie Wild's Practical Backpacking, to a lesser extent, Gary Mittelholtz's Doing Stuff Outdoors. Sadly, only the Outdoors Station is still active.

Fortunately for us, you can still hear Bob Butler's 27 Trailcast episodes on Archive.org – and I thoroughly recommend you do. His brief was to do interviews with people connected to hiking, be it through gear or hiking itself. And it's through Bob that I first learnt of, and drooled about, the PCT.

So what's the connection with this show? Other than format, none really. That wasn't always the case. Back in 2008, I wanted to start where Bob had left off. I even thought about sending him a message to see if he was up for it. But it was around the same time I took a job in the Everglades, and knew I would be too busy, so I registered Skippycast instead.

And over the years, waiting for the time to get the project off the ground, I realized my interests had varied. I didn't just think of thru-hiking anymore. Instead, I started to consider other journey's, like long distance canoe trip of The Wilderness Waterway in Everglades National Park. And I realized it was the sense of unrestrained adventure that interested me, not the mode of travel so much.

And here we are, 10years later, my first episode, which I happened to record almost 2yrs ago, starting a show where I talk about Hobo like travel. Because that's what I like, unrestricted travel. Whether it's a bike, a boat, a VW combi, or on foot, I want to talk to modern day hobos.

But first, who am I? I'd like to say I am a hiker, but I'm not really. I'm not even a hobo. I'm a wanna be hobo. I've had a taste. I developed my love for travel and adventure early in life. I was on my first plan at 2, but that's not the reason. No, around 5, I remember looking at a map on a friend's brother's desk, he was older, and him explaining how he was going to travel the world. Then when I was 12, I watched World Safari for the first time a documentary about Alby Mangels' and his 6yrs of travel in the 70s. And then in 1990, I spent 4 and half years on sabbatical in UK. And in 1999, I left Western Australia again to travel to the US this time for student exchange. So I come to the escape bug naturally, as I do the idea of a hobo life. I once even told my Mam – I was about 13 and we were eating in the Carillion Arcade in Perth, that if I were a hobo, I would hang out here waiting for people to walk away from their half eaten plates of Chinese food.

And were it not for an unfortunate misadventure into marriage, I would have been that wandering spirit. Instead I now live just by the Matanzas River in St Augustine FL, taking care of my daughter on off weeks, trying to get back into environmental science and of course dreaming.

In this interview, I talk to a friend of mine, Jodie McLean. Jodie and I were at ECU Edith Cowan Uni in Joondalup Western Australia at the same time and lived in on campus housing together. When I recorded this, Jodie had not long since finished the Bibbulmin Track. Opened in 1979, Western Australia's 150<sup>th</sup>, the Bib Track is a long distance hiking trail modeled on the AT, and extended from Kalamunda, just south of Perth, to Albany in the state's southwest. The southwest region of Western Australia was identified as one of 25 'Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities' in the Journal Nature back in 2000.

I first heard about the Bib Track from another Uni mate, who was about to hike it in 1999. I was just heading on student exchange to the US. I wasn't a hiker, well not since Boys Brigade, and I didn't get the idea of 30 days on a trail. Now that was then, this is now. Now I couldn't imagine anything more amazing. Because the Bib Track is amazing. So onto my conversation with Jodie McLean.

<< Transition music >>

<<End blurb>>

Well, that's going to wrap up this program of SkippyCast. Thanks to Jodie McLean for taking the time to talk about Bibbulmun Track and her other adventures. Check out the show notes at [skippycast.org](http://skippycast.org) for a link to a couple of Jodie's pictures and Bibbulmun Track Foundation. And if you want to leave a comment for me or Jodie, feel free to do it at the website or the SkippyCast Facebook page. I would certainly love any feedback, positive or negative. While the show is for me, it also has to be something that other people want to listen to.

Now the next episode is already in the bag, or at least the interview portion is, but it's not really about Hobo life. I also run a Facebook group that's pays homage to the PBS show Trailside, and I was fortunate enough to get to speak to Nan Mandes about her time on the show as executive producer. So expect me to occasionally deviate somewhat from my brief, as I interview people that interest me.

After that, who knows? I have some ideas. Hopefully you do to, and you'll share them with me. One of mine is to bring back Bob Butler and talk about his time producing Trailcast, We've already spoken, and he was keen, so it would be nice to make that happen. Again, not Hobo related, but something people who remember Trailcast will get a kick out of.

Special Thanks to Tom Joad and Kelly Vice for providing the music for this show, and thank you for listening to Skippycast.

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The Bib Track is amazing, and now to Jodes.

<< Transition music >>

<<End blurb>>

For those not familiar, we were talking about travel visas to the UK. Jodes being a country girl.

Central to the theme that you have to have everything together or everything has fallen apart

Biodiversity Hotspot

I was checking out the outtakes and I asked you about doing the PCT or the AT, and you said that your Aunt said, well, maybe she doesn't want to do anymore hiking.

Talked about the Cape to Cape.

The mindi bidi bike track.

Trail name. Yodier.

**Title:** Vagabonding and the Bibbulmun Track: Interview with Jodie McLean  
**Date:** Sept 1st 2016

### ***Introduction:***

A brief introduction on how I know you and who you are - I will add this in post.

Jodie McLean: Travelled, recent vagabond, and just completed the Bibbulmun Track.

The prerecord intro:

Welcome to Skippycast, the show about Hobo-like Travel. The date is < insert date > and I'm your host, David McFee.

Since this is the inaugural episode, let me get some of the background out of the way. Skippycast has been in development for close to 10 years. And by development, I mean got the URL and thought, someday I will get that going.

The idea actually comes from the first great hiking podcast I listened to, Trailcast, by Bob Butler – If you listened to it to, you will recognise the intro music, which is homage. Now Trailcast is long since dead. But I have put a link in the show notes. The domain no longer relates to the podcast, but you can still get to it through [archive.org](http://archive.org). Bob's mission was fairly simple: he interviewed people in the hiking world. Particularly he concentrated on long distance hikers. And when he went off the air, I thought I could take up the slack.

Now at first I wanted to focus on hikers as well, since that's my dream, but then I realized that cuts out all those other worldly vagabonds and hobos. You see, I am more interested in wanderlust. You see, I think a life without travel is empty – it's a feeling for me that dates back to watching Alby Mangel's World Safari as a bright eyed 11-year old and has held strong with me. So my brief is a much broader: I want to interview those people living the dream of travel unfettered by the constraints of modern living. In promo I did, I said whether it's with a backpack, a VW combi or a bindle, I want to interview those modern day James Cooks. So if you know someone who just pissed off and left it all behind, pass me a message through the Skippycast website or Facebook page. You can find links in the show notes.

Now my first series of interview are going to focus on my mates. When you are interested in travel, you gravitate to those who love it also. But first some background about me: I'm a 46 year Western Australian living in Palm Coast Florida with my wife and 2yr old daughter. I went to school to be an Environmental Scientist, and for a number of years that's just what I did. I had my own business and worked in the Florida Everglades on the CERP Recover. I am now a SAHD, and in fact if you want to hear about my life as SAHD, head on over to [SAHDPod.com](http://SAHDPod.com). It was my first dabbling in podcasting where I started a round table podcast with a bunch of other SAHDs. I've always wanted to travel. My parents were a little gypsy-ish and emigrated to Australia just before I was born. I have 3 passports, which is handy. I've not done nearly enough exploration. But I have lived in more than a couple of countries, and look for adventure where I can find it. Last year I was in the UK and did the C2C. This year I am roadtripping to DadCon in North Carolina. But enough about me.

This interview is with Jodie McLean. I met Jodie back in my Uni days at Edith Cowan in Western Australia. We both lived at Edith Cowan's Student Village – the Uni's on Campus housing. And shared a unit – the infamous Unit 19 – with 4 others. I was a good bit older at 27, and by this stage had travelled to the UK, living there for most of my early 20s. Jodie was fresh back from Finland, having done student exchange. The microcosm that was student housing was a great place for travel. We had a good range of nationalities and ages. We've kept in touch ever since, and I've recently been

following along vicariously now that I am married with a young daughter, Please let me introduce Traveller, vagavond, and Bibbulmun Track through hiker, Jodie McLean.

### ***Show Story Arc:***

We are going to start with why all the sudden free time and why travel, backtracking a little into why and where you got the love of travel. We will talk about your 100-days + on Instagram and where you have been, then moving on to the bulk of the show speaking about the Bibbulmun Track. We will finish with, where's next?

### ***Show Questions:***

< Welcome Jodie and thank you for being my first guest. >

Time for Jodie to respond.

1. So you know the brief of the show, to interview people who are hobos, and you've been doing a lot of it recently. So before I get too much into the weeds of the Bib Track, what all have you been up to? < Just tell me of the last 12mths, but not in too much detail >  
  
I might follow up on something you've done, but otherwise I will move on.
2. So where did you get all this free time from and what made you decide to go hobo for a while? < You can talk about becoming redundant and your motivation to travel >
3. So you've a love of travel; where does that come from? < Tell me about those that inspire you, books you have read, shows you have seen >
4. So before the recent spate of wanderlust, what had you done – where had you been? < You can tell me about Finland, your post Uni Travel, and anything up to now >
5. Now one of the main reasons I have you hear is because of the Bibbulmun Track. Could you tell me a little bit about the Bib Track and how come you decided to do it?
6. Now at 1,003.1 kilometres (623.3 mi) long, the Bib Track is much more doable than its long distance cousin the AT. Now the average is about 30 days to end to end it (what us Aussies call a thru-hike); how long did it take you and how did you prepare for that? What was the process?
7. Now you went solo, why was that?
8. Was it everything you expected?
9. What was the most difficult part?

10. What was it that you enjoyed the most?
11. Was it more for testing yourself or something more spiritual?
12. How did you feel when it was over?
13. What's your next adventure?
14. Now you have an Instagram: What Instagram day are you on right now and what does it mean? < tell me about the 100-days + on Instagram>
15. So before I let you go, is there any way people can get in touch with you if they need to? (Are you comfortable with handing out a Twitter handle etc?)

I may always have follow up questions. They will be based on what you say, so we can't plan them Just know it's always a chance. We will try and keep things to 60min, 40 min edited. However, we are not going to cut a good tale.

Post Interview Outro:

Well, that was the first in what I hope is many episodes of Skippycast. I hope for this to be a weekly podcast, so if you know anyone that's interesting and fits the show brief, send them my way. You can either do that through the website or Facebook page. I am especially interested in people who do the boat life. Aside from World Safari, I met a lad years ago who left the navy and lived on a boat. I would love to speak to him now, as It was certainly some life.

Special thanks to < for the music > And if you haven't, check out Bob Bultler's effort – you can even hear a follow up interview on him at. If you want to hear more from me – like SAHDPod - - you can find links through my personal website davidmcfree.com

And remember "Travel is the only thing you buy that makes you richer." — Unknown

<http://wanderlustcircle.com/wanderlust-quotes/>









**Title:** Trailside: Make Your Own Adventure: Interview with Nan Mandes  
**Date:** June 11<sup>th</sup> 2018

### ***Introduction:***

Welcome to Skippycast, the show about Hobo-like Travel. The date is < insert date > and I'm your host, David McFee.

Welcome once again, this time to the 2nd Episode of Skippycast. Now this may be a little early in the run to change direction, but for a some time now I have been interested in the television show Trailside. In fact, I started a modest little fan page on Facebook that has gathered about 77 followers in 5 years.

For those of you who don't know, Trailside was a How to Outdoor Show on PBS back in 1993. According to its Wikipedia entry, it spanned 10 seasons and 154 Episodes: however, you'll be hard pressed to find copies of them beyond the first 3.

So what's this interview about? Well, my guest this episode is Nan Mandes, or Nan Babiak as she was back then, and Nan was the production manager for Trailside for the first three seasons .....

### ***Introduction v2:***

Welcome to Skippycast, a podcast about Hobo-like Travel. I'm your host, David McFee.

Skippycast is a podcast about hobolike travel. Those people whose wanderlust leads them to abandon all for parts unknown. At least that's the theory. In this programme I chat with Nan Mandes. Nan Mandes, or Nan Babiak as she was back then, was the production manager for the PBS show Trailside. What's Trailside and what does it have to do with wanderlust? Well, everything and nothing. I know it's only the second interview, so it's a little early to start off in new directions, but to quote Wikipedia, "***Trailside: Make Your Own Adventure*** was a six-time [Emmy](#)-nominated series that brought the outdoors to millions of viewers each week. The series premiered in 1993 and, at its peak, was available to over 80 million households via [Public Television](#)" I can't attest to those figures, but I do know it ran for 8 unique seasons and officially came to a close in 2003. I didn't see it for it's first run, but instead found it on VHS, and I enjoyed it immensely. It's gentle format, it's focus on teaching wilderness and outdoor activity skills, and above all getting people off the couch. Nan Mandes was part of that for the first 3 seasons. Arguably the most popular seasons of the show's run. Now I met Nan when I set up a trailside facebook page. She reached out, and since I wanted to know more, and it is still somewhat related, I jumped at the chance. So on to my conversation with Nan Mandes.

And that's another episode of skippycast done. Thanks to Nan Mandes for taking about her time on trailside . - and yes, my pronunciation of her name changes constantly for some reason. For that I apologize profusely. . Check out Skippycast.org for the shows notes and some pictures that Nan has so *considerately* shared. And as always, if you want to leave a comment for me of Nan, feel free to do it at the website or at the Skippycast facebook page. Now I have 3 more episodes already recoded. The other interview I did in 2018 with my van travel mate John Clagett, a recently recorded interview with John Veiham - The host of the first 3 seasons of Trailside and Bob Butler, the ex-host of Trailcast. Back on topic, I plan then to speak to Bobby Abrahamson who produced the wonderful pictorial book One Summer Across America about his 2001 road trip across the US by Greyhound bus. I will follow this with an interview of the original digital nomad Steven K. Roberts and his incline bicycling adventures back in the 80s and 90s. And of course, if you feel there is someone out there I really need to talk to, message me and I will see about setting it up.

And special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

**Show Story Arc:**

Start with your background and how you got involved in Trailside, ending with the transfer over to LN Productions.

I HAVE BEEN INVOLVED & INTERESTED IN VIDEO PRODUCTION SINCE HIGH SCHOOL. IN FACT, I HELPED START A VIDEO PRODUCTION CLASS/CURRICULUM IN MY JUNIOR YEAR OF SCHOOL. IT'S ALL I'VE EVER DONE. BEFORE TRAILSIDE, I WAS MOSTLY INVOLVED IN POST PRODUCTION. I THOUGHT I WANTED TO BE AN EDITOR - I STILL LOVE THE EDIT SIDE OF PRODUCTION BUT I PREFER TO BE INVOLVED IN THE "MAKING OF" - I STILL LOVE THE IDEA OF BRINGING SOMEONE'S VISION TO LIFE. GOING FROM SITTING AROUND DISCUSSING AN IDEA AND THEN SEEING IT THRU TO THE END PRODUCT - A VIDEO.

**Show Questions:**

Call intro:

Welcome Nan and thanks for joining me. Now it must seem a little like ghosts of times past with respect to Trailside, since it has been off the air for over a decade, is that correct?

AHHHH THE MAGIC OF THE INTERNET! FOR YEARS NOW, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE I GOOGLE TRAILSIDE - JUST LOOKING TO SEE WHAT IS OUT THERE AND WHAT OTHER SHOWS MIGHT HAVE SPRUNG FROM THAT SHOW - NEVER FINDING ANYTHING, AND THEN, BOOM - THERE IT WAS - YOUR FB PAGE - A FAN PAGE! IT MADE ME SMILE.

Well, to give you a little background on why I'm interested, I came to Trailside through an eBay purchase back in 2008. I was big into searching hiking films, and got about a dozen or season 1 & 2 VHS tapes with John Viehman as the host. And that lead me to trying to find more, and ultimately setting up the Facebook group you stumbled across.

< So when you reached out to me through to Facebook group, I did a little googling found your name attached to some old Backpacker Magazine articles. And sure enough, there you are listed at the Production Manager. So forgive my naivety, but what's the role of a production manager and how did you get hooked up with the Trailside gig? What is your background and have you always made outdoor type shows?

SO, AS PRODUCTION MANAGER, I, ALONG WITH MATT COHEN WHO WAS THE SERIES PRODUCER MANAGED THE ENTIRE SERIES - WE HELPED COME UP WITH THE SHOW IDEAS/LOCATIONS, OVERSAW THE BUDGET, HIRED THE STAFF AND CREW, AND KEPT THE SCHEDULE ON TRACK SO THAT WE COULD DELIVER THE SHOWS TO PBS IN TIME FOR AIRING.

AT THE TIME, MOST OF MY WORK EXPERIENCE HAD BEEN IN POST....MY ABILITY TO MOVE INTO PRODUCTION CAME FROM A COUPLE OF CLIENTS AT A POST HOUSE. WHERE I WAS THE OPERATIONS MANAGER --- ONE HIRED ME TO BE A LOCATION MANAGER FOR A COUPLE OF DOCUMENTARIES FOR THE DISCOVERY CHANNEL - MATT COHEN WAS ANOTHER CLIENT AND, IN 1992, HE APPROACHED ME ABOUT A NEW SERIES HE WAS IN TALKS WITH STEPHEN SAMUELS (FROM NEW MEDIA) TO PRODUCE .

I HAD NO EXPERIENCE WITH THE OUTDOORS OR EVEN BEING A PART OF A SERIES OF THIS MAGNITUDE - BUT. THANKFULLY, MATT HAD FAITH IN MY ABILITY

So where did you go to school? What was your degree?

< What can you tell me about how the show developed? There is a quote from John Vehman in Backpacker, just before the season 2 launch, that people would catch him in airports and be excited by Trailside because it contrasted the 'Good old boy hunting and fishing shows that dominated Saturday Mornings'. Was that what Trailside set out to do?

BACKPACKER AND NEW MEDIA PARTNERED TO TRY TO CREATE AN OUTDOOR ADVENTURE SERIES. THE MAIN THREAD OF THOUGHT WAS TO CREATE A SHOW WHERE EVERY ACTIVITY SHOWCASED WAS "SELF POWERED" (SO NO HELICOPTER SKIING, NO MOTORIZED ANYTHING!) OUR PILOT SHOW WAS IN THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS OF TENNESSEE. WHEN WE PRODUCED THAT PILOT, WE SHOPPED IT AROUND TO VARIOUS ENTITIES - PBS CAME THROUGH AND GAVE US A SLOT IF WE COULD COME UP WITH SPONSORS TO COVER THE COSTS OF A FULL SERIES - LLBEAN AND CHEVY TRUCKS SIGNED ON AND GAVE US THE \$\$ TO HELP PRODUCE THE FIRST SERIES.

< Now full disclosure, I've only seen about 22 of the 40 episodes for the first 3 seasons. But they seemed to get about. Particularly in the second season, which saw the show go to New Zealand for the Milford Track. How did you manage that on a PBS budget? How did you come up with locations?

AFTER A FIRST SUCCESSFUL SEASON, WE DECIDED TO TRY AND SHOOT TWO INTERNATIONAL EPISODES PER SEASON. BUDGET WAS DEFINITELY ALWAYS A CONCERN - ESPECIALLY A "PBS" BUDGET - AFTER A SUCCESSFUL FIRST SEASON, WE WERE ABLE TO GET A LOT OF PERKS FROM THE TOURISM BOARDS WE SHOWCASED. SO WE COULD USUALLY COUNT ON FLIGHTS/HOTELS TO EACH LOCALE WE VISITED. LLBEAN'S SPONSORSHIP MEANT THAT, ALONG WITH \$\$ TO PRODUCE THE SHOW, ALL EQUIPMENT FOR CREW AND ON-CAMERA PARTICIPANTS WAS SHIPPED TO US. IT WAS A FANTASTIC DEAL - WE HAD A SPECIAL NUMBER WE COULD CALL AND ORDER ANYTHING WE WANTED FROM THEIR CATALOG. THE CHEVY SPONSORSHIP INCLUDED US BEING ABLE TO CONTACT LOCAL DEALERS TO PROVIDE US WITH SUBURBANS FOR THE CREW AND VEHICLES TO SHOWCASE ON CAMERA. LASTLY, LOCAL HIKING CLUBS HELPED US TOO. MOST OF THE LOCATIONS WE VISITED HAD STRICT RULES REGARDING WHO/WHAT WAS ALLOWED ON THE TRAIL --- SO ALL OF OUR EQUIPMENT NEEDED TO BE HIKE IN --- WE MADE DONATIONS TO LOCAL CLUBS AND VOLUNTEERS HELPED US GET EVERYTHING TO OUR CAMPSITE.

TO COME UP WITH THE SERIES, WE WOULD HAVE THESE MARATHON 2-3 DAY MEETINGS WHERE WE WROTE DOWN EVERY ACTIVITY WE WANTED TO DO, AND EVERY PLACE WE WANTED TO VISIT -

< Who decided show locations and content and what mix where they going for? Was this driven by what Backpacker Magazine wanted? [SEE ABOVE :\)](#)

< Were you on location for the shoots? What was that like? How long did they last? How big was the crew?

< Do you have a favourite episode? \*I'm a big fan of the AT Thru-Hike 2 part show\*Where there any whose footage wasn't used?

< There were 3, 2-part shows. How was that decided? In hindsight, many of the shows were really short. The Milford Track less than 30min. It seemed like such a waste to go all that way and not do an hour or 2.

< What was a shoot like? Was there a ton of footage that never made it?

< What was it like working with the cast, particularly John Viehman?

I LOVED WORKING ON THIS SHOW - WE HAD SUCH GOOD CHEMISTRY. I HAVE A FEW FRIENDSHIPS THAT CAME FROM WORKING ON TRAILSIDE THAT I STILL MAINTAIN TO THIS DAY. JOHN WAS SO KNOWLEDGEABLE IN HIS FIELD BUT A NEWBIE WHEN IT CAME TO PRODUCTION - HE WAS ALWAYS OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS AS WE ALL LEARNED TOGETHER (!) MOST IMPORTANT WAS HIS UNWAVERING CONCERN TO KEEP THE INTEGRITY OF THE SHOW INTACT. WE DID NOT CUT CORNERS - WE HIKE, WE PORTAGED, WE SLEPT IN WET TENTS, WE WOKE UP TO SNOW IN THE DESERT IN MOAB AND THE PRODUCTION STILL WENT ON.

< Do you have any funny anecdotes?

< Why did the show end with Backpacker?

< After Trailside, John John Viehman went off to do Anyplace Wild. I didn't see you listed in the season 3 credits; did you have any involvement with that show?

I'm a little confused on what the episode season breakdown is - AT in season 3

NO, I LEFT TRAILSIDE IN 1995

What was your reason for leaving? It seems like the perfect job

< What do you think the legacy of the show is? By today's standards the shows are very gentle, even quaint. How do you think the show would be produced today?

I LOVED (AND STILL LOVE) THE SIMPLICITY OF TRAILSIDE AND THE SHOW'S MESSAGE OF "BY YOUR OWN POWER" - I THINK THAT HAVING J.V. AS THE HOST ALLOWED THE VIEWER TO IMAGINE THEMSELVES BEING ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH ANYTHING THEY SAW ON OUR SHOW.

I THINK TODAY THE CHOICE MIGHT BE TO GO WITH A YOUNGER, MORE ADVENTUROUS HOST - AND I THINK THAT WOULD CHANGE THE DYNAMIC OF THE SHOW. I DO THINK WITH THE ADVENT OF TECHNOLOGY OUR GEAR WOULD BE MUCH LIGHTER AND WITH STREAMING, WE WOULD REACH A LARGER AUDIENCE.

< Do you wish you had access to what they have now for production?

OMG I OFTEN WONDER HOW WE GOT ANYTHING ACCOMPLISHED BACK THEN --- THE RESEARCH, THE CONTACTS, THE LOGISTICS - ALL DONE BY USING LANDLINES (!) OR GOING TO THE LIBRARY! OR HAVING LOCAL TOURISM BOARDS MAIL US DOCUMENTS... EVEN THE USE OF COMPUTERS AND EMAIL WERE RELATIVELY NEW BACK THEN!

< So in closing, what are you up to now? Are there any shows you are watching or recommend?

AFTER TRAILSIDE, I WAS KINDA BURNT OUT WITH THE OUTDOORS -- IT WAS FUN BUT A GRUELING SCHEDULE. I NOW OWN MY OWN VIDEO PRODUCTION COMPANY AND PRODUCE CORPORATE VIDEOS. I NOW LIVE IN NORTHERN NJ IN A BEAUTIFUL LAKE COMMUNITY - I KAYAK AND HIKE BUT ONLY FOR FUN NOW NOT FOR WORK :)

SOME PICS BELOW FROM TRAILSIDE...

1. FROM OUR MOUNTAIN BIKING IN MOAB EPISODE - ME AND ONE OF OUR OUTFITTERS
2. SEA KAYAKING EPISODE - A DAY IN TOWN BEFORE WE SET OFF ON THE SKIFFS
3. MY GIANT PRODUCTION BOARD AND HOW I KEPT TRACK OF EVERY EPISODE
4. ANOTHER MOAB SHOT
5. REVIEWING OUR FOOTAGE IN BAJA SHOOT
6. BAJA AGAIN
7. JV PUBLICITY PICTURE - "AUTOGRAPHED" :P

Outro



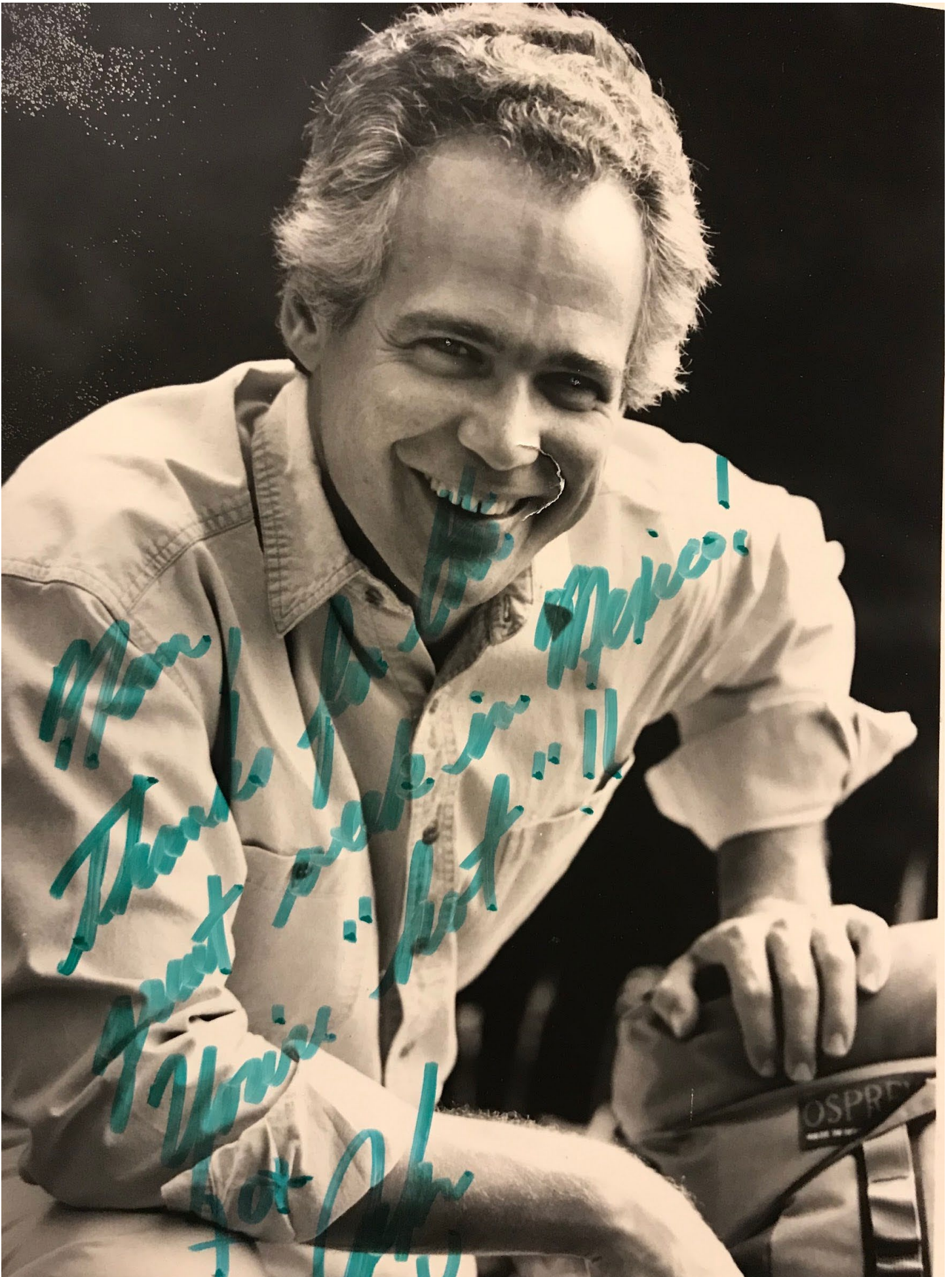


DEADLINE	MOAB 1	BAJA 2	JOSHUA 3	READ RIG 4	OREGON 5	MINNESOTA 6	WEST VA 7	VIRGINIA 8	TENNESSEE 9	MONTANA 10	COLORADO 11	ALASKA 12	PERCY 13
OUTLINE	RD KM	RD AD	RD DH	DC JO	RD KM	PH DH	PH JB	PH CS/DH	— JB	RD KM	RD DH	PH JB	PH JB
TREATMENT													
SCRIPT													
EQUIP/CLOTHES													
DETAILED													
EQUIP/CLOTHES													
ORDERED													
EQUIP/CLOTHES													
INHOUSE													
GREEN PROD. MTG													
MTG w/JV.													
SHOOT DATES	3/31-4/8	4/13-4/24	4/26-5/3	5/13-5/30	5/14-5/11	6/5-6/11	6/19-6/25	7/6-7/11	Oct 4-2	2/28-3/4	3/21-3/30	3/27-4/5	7/10-7/18
DUBS INHOUSE													
TAPES LOGGED													
ROUGH CUT													
BEGINS													
ROUGH CUT													
SCREENING													
FINE CUT													
SCREENING													
CREDITS DUE													
CREDITS APPROVED								6/11	7/13	6/24			
SIDEBAR													
ON-LINE													9/6
MIX													9/13
SEND TO APS	6/24	7/15	7/12	7/19	7/20	8/2	8/11	8/16	8/23	8/30	9/6	9/13	9/20



















**Title:** The Man with the Van: Interview with John Clagett  
**Date:** Sept 24<sup>th</sup> 2018

>>>Music

Skippycast, a podcast about Hobolike Travel. A podcast for those with a Wanderlust. In this interview I chat with an old friend, John Clagett. As with the Jodie McLean interview, this is another false start to the podcast, since I recorded it way back in 2018.

I've known John now for some 25 years, going back to his student exchange at my home university in Western Australia. And as of now, John works for the park service out in California at Angel Island, but back when we were dirtbag university students John was the man with the plan on living in the Van. In fact, He was the man who I first went rock climbing with. He was the best man at my wedding. He is the person I wanted to be my partner on the Amazing Race and to hike the Pacific Crest Trail with - things that never got off the ground. And he is the was the first person I knew to just hit the road with no end in sight.

Now it is not entirely clear in the interview, but John spent 2-yrs from ---- to ---- travelling. He covered over ---- kilometres, or ---- miles if youre still stuck in the imperial system. And while it might seem something everyone does now. Just check Instagram and the cost of old Westies. But John was an old school Van traveller. His Journey wasn't for 'likes', his was for adventure. And he was not part of the gig economy, he had to stop and work seasonal jobs. And now to my conversation with John Clagett.

>>> music

And there's another episode in the bag. Thanks to John Clagett for taking the time to talk to me.

John had a profound affect on my life. It's because of John and my two-week trip with him in Colorado that by the time I got to Arkansas and was doing my masters degree I was getting antsy for adventure and I just kept scanning the Samba and looking up Westfalias – this was 2003. I relised there really was a serious division in personality between my ex wife and I – she would just remind me that it was foolish and that I was married now. And all I could think is, this is really the life. Get out there, minimize your costs, and do what you love, at least for a while until you scratch that itch. And I never forgot that dream. I went to the Tampa RV show in 2013, which is spectacular by the way. I even bought a Safari Van back in 2014, just before my daughter was born – sadly it was a bust and never came to much.

John has never done another road trip like this. And it is one of my regrets that I didn't travel with him in between semesters at Uni. I think that is a lesson for everyone: You have to take your opportunities when they present themselves and act with purpose. Don't let anyone else get in the way, because you may never get another chance.

Check out the show notes at Skippycast.org as well as a few pictures of John and his van. If you want to leave a comment for me or John, feel free to do it at the website or the Skippycast facebook page. And positive or negative feedback is welcomed, since it helps me make the show better.

Now the next show is a follow on from the Nan Mandes interview and also has nothing to do with Hobos – kind of, at least. It is an interview with John Viehman who was the host of Trailside. He was gracious enough to be interviewed and maybe his show travel schedule can be considered somewhat nomadic.

After that, it's Bob Bulter – the host of Trailcast – That one is in the bag and I am trying to line up an interview with the original digital nomad, Steven K. Roberts. After that, who knows? I know of someone who rode the dirty dog for 30-days in the 90s – also known as Greyhound, but ideas run thin from that point. So if you have any suggestions, feel free to reach out.

And finally, special thanks to the band Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show.

**Title:** The Man with the Chevy Van: Interview with John Clagett

***Introduction:***

A brief introduction on how I know you and who you are - I will add this in post.

***Show Story Arc:***

We are going to start with your love of adventure travel and what you've done - we can talk about exchange, Australia, mountain climbing, hiking – you name it. Talk about what led to your wanderlust. We will then move on the bulk of the interview, which is the 99-00 van trip – all the way from conception, to planning, to the journey. We will finish with what you've done since, what you do to satisfy the urge to travel, and where's next?

***Show Questions:***

So I met you in Australia, was that your first big trip and what was the reason behind it?

Were you always a travel junkie?

Who was your inspiration?

Where have you been?

So how come you decided to do a van journey; how did that come about? <It truly was a hobo adventure, as you didn't know when it would come to an end, right?

What was the process? What Van did you choose, and why? How did you modify it?

You went solo?

When did you go?

How long did it take?

Where did you go?

Was it everything you expected?

What was the most difficult part?

What was it that you enjoyed the most?

Was it more for testing yourself or something more spiritual?

How did you feel when it was over?

What can you say you learnt?

How do you think it would be different if you'd done it today?

So what do you do now and how do you scratch the adventure itch?

What happened to the Van, man?

(Are you comfortable with handing out a Twitter handle etc.?)





You're listening to Skippycast, I'm David McFee

>>>Music

Skippycast, a podcast about Hobolike Travel. In this interview I chat with an old friend, John Clagett. As with Nan Mandes, this was recorded back in 2018. But my history with John goes way back. I've known him now for some 25 years, back to his student exchange at my home university in Western Australia. And then his home university in Missouri.

And as of now, John works for the park service out in California at Angel Island, but back when we were dirtbag university students John was the man with the plan on living in the Van. In fact, He was the man who I first went rock climbing with. He was the best man at my wedding. He is the person I wanted to be my partner on the Amazing Race and to hike the Pacific Crest Trail with - things that never got off the ground. But the Van journey, that happened. At graduation he just hit the road with no end in sight.

Now it is not entirely clear in the interview, but John spent 2-yr's from 1999 to 2001 travelling. He criss crossed the country easily covering 16000 kilometres, or 10000 miles if you're still stuck in the imperial system. And while it might seem something everyone does now. Just check Instagram and the cost of old Westies. But John was an old school Van traveller. His Journey wasn't for 'likes', his was for adventure. And he was not part of the gig economy, he had to stop and work seasonal jobs. And now to my conversation with John Clagett.

>>> music

And there's another episode in the bag. Thanks of course to John Clagett for taking to me.

Now I slowly want to start ticking off different modes of transport. I've done by foot and by Van, but I am interested in all the different forms of transport people take. Whether hitching a ride, jumping a rail car, or a back pack and a plane, or those who like John talked about who choose the boat life. I want to talk to them. What made them do it? The boat life is something that particularly interests me. Aside from Ably Mangels World Safari being my inspiration when I was young, I met a lad years ago when I was in my mid 20s who had left the navy and lived on a sailboat in Hillarys Boat Harbour in Western Australia . How I would love to speak to him now, or people like him. He was certainly living an interesting life in the 1990s. So if you have any suggestions, if you think you know of someone who would make a great candidate to interview, please, reach out.

Other than that, check out the show notes at [Skippycast.org](http://Skippycast.org) as well as a few pictures of John and his van. If you want to leave a comment for me or John, feel free to do it at the website or the Skippycast facebook page. Positive or negative, all feedback is welcomed.

Now the next show is a follow on from the Nan Mandes interview and also has nothing to do with Hobos – kind of, at least. It is an interview with John Viehman who was the host of Trailside. He was gracious enough to be interviewed and maybe with his show travel schedule he can be considered somewhat nomadic. And if you are little bit confused about what Trailside is, head on over to Youtube and do a search. There are episodes there, as well as Vimeo, for both Anyplace Wild and Trailside.

And finally, special thanks to the band tom jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show. and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

After that, it's Bob Bulter – the host of Trailcast – That one is in the bag and I am trying to line up an interview with the original digital nomad, Steven K. Roberts. After that, who knows? I know of someone who rode the dirty dog for 30-days in the 90s – also knows as Greyhound, but ideas run thin from that point. So if you have any suggestions, feel free to reach out.

**Title:** S01E03  
**Date:** 18th March, 2023  
**Time:** 11 AM EST  
**Duration:** 60 min to 90 min  
**Host:** David McFee  
**Guests:** John Viehman

**Introduction:**

I want to focus on Trailside and Anyplace Wild, but I don't want to discount the other work you have done. If I miss things, you think are important, let me know.

I will produce the intro separately. I'll introduce you then. It frees us to just jump straight into questions. And just so you know - I am not saying we will hit all of these. And these are only here to give you a heads up in case you want to think about it ahead of time.

Questions for JV:

1. How did your love of the outdoors begin? I saw on one episode - the Maine Island Trail - you grew up in Minnesota, but moved to Maine - what was the reason for moving? Where have you ended up?
2. It is difficult to know what to ask about your community service, but you had an extensive outdoor career leading up to Trailside. American Hiking Society – Board Member/Chair (1989-1995)  
American Discovery Trail – Co-Founder (1990)  
National Trails Day – Co-Founder (1992). What led you to so focused on community service, particularly with eco-recreation?
3. How did you end up publishing and weren't you an editor for Backpacker?
4. How did Trailside come about - How does an editor become the host of a TV show?
5. Its appeal comes from the combination of instruction and location. The location drew you in, but the instruction showed you how. Who developed the concept? What was your involvement? And I wrote the quote down, but I lost it so I am paraphrasing - Something like "the Television show that ensures you watch less television" Do you remember that and what led that being the show's underlying theme?
6. Who came up with the format, decided the locations, scripted the shows? What was that process? In addition to the host, what other hats did you wear?

7. How long did it take to produce an episode beginning to end? What was the work schedule like? How story boarded and how much extra film was produced? You had a pretty tight timeline to tell a story.
8. Some of those opening scenes were pretty complicated. You wouldn't want to fluff your lines, but I am sure it happened. How many takes did it typically take?
9. I don't want to spoil too much of the magic, but the show is designed to make it seem like it is an intimate meeting between friends - You, your guest and the audience. But how many people were there on a shoot? How big was the crew on the overnight camps and how did that work logistically - many of those places were not exactly hospitable to large crowds?
10. You would always end the episode with what you're doing the next day. Did that actually happen? Did you get a chance to just enjoy the ride or was it all go all the time?
11. You, to a degree represented, the everyman, since many of those people were often of olympic standards. How did it feel to be on camera with some of those experts? The telemark skiing and riding the rapids in Oregon come to mind. How much did you learn from being on the show, did it translate to interests off the show and who was your favourite guest?
12. That leads to what most people want to know: what was your personal experience like on the show? What was your favourite episode? Most challenging episode? Nan mentioned the Baja kayak sickness. What was the creepiest/scariest incident, especially in the backcountry? The Grizzlies come to mind. What are your favourite anecdotes? The AT was my favourite episode. How many people did you choose? How much film didn't make it?
13. You only stayed with Trailside for 3-seasons and moved on to Anyplace Wild. What led to this and the changeover in production companies from Trailside? I am not as familiar with AnyPlace Wild, but the format did change. Gone were the long involved intros, replaced mostly by voice over, and there was more focus on location over education. What can you say about the development of Anyplace Wild? Did you pay any attention to Trailside after you left? Were you involved at all?
14. Many would consider hosting shows like that a dream come true. Would you agree? Do you miss it? And if so - which I assume you do - what do you miss the most? You certainly got to see some amazing places.
15. What have you been doing since?

16. You sent me a list of awards, what are you most proud of?
17. Do you pay attention to productions today and is there anything that impresses you?  
Certainly youtube has made everyone a producer. And the VHS extras give some insight into the production - which by today's standards must seem ridiculously cumbersome. Do you ever look at equipment today - cameras, drones and the like - and wonder how much easier it would have made life back then?
18. So many shows get forgotten. What do you think the legacy of Trailside/Anyplace Wild is, what do you want it to be? You have certainly been lucky because the VHS tapes of the first 3 seasons are still floating around, more so than anything from after that time. The vhs tapes had good extras. Did you do that for each episode?

### ***Wrap-up***

John Viehman

Skippycast, a podcast about Hobolike Travel. This is the second, and last interview, I will do that incorporates the television show trailside. It's an interview with John Veihman, who was the host of Trailside for the first 3 seasons of as well as the host of AnyPlace Wild, the editor of Backpacker magazine, and much much more. John has been active in a variety of local and national community service boards and received awards for his service accordingly. Of course I was interested in him for his TV work. And that's primarily what I talked about. And if you don't know what trailside is, this the time to pause the audio, head on over to Youtube, and watch a few Trailside videos, especially the ones with John. And after you seen a few, at the very least the Appalachian Trail Episodes, you will be ready for my conversation with John Viehman.

Now that was a long episode, but I wanted to give John plenty of time since he was so accommodating in talking to me. I don't expect that many episodes to be that long in the future, and I will try to keep them to 45 to 55 min, but sometime the conversation just gets away from you.

As for Trailside, check them out. Enjoy them. Lobby your PBS to bring it back. It was such a good and wholesome show. And not just John's episodes. I think Peter Whitakers trip on the Katy Trail and kayaking NY, pre 9-11 no less, are wonderful. As are many others. And regarding the other videos I mentioned, there was a golden age of videos in the late 90s to early noughts before youtube. I strongly recommend Scwatch's videos. They started with his PCT Walk Series, but he has numerous AT and other trail videos. There's also Circ' TREK - A Journey on the Appalachian Trail, Appalachian Adventures 2000 Miles to Maine: Adventures on the Appalachian Trail. More on the PCT I recommend Walking The West. Hiking 2600 miles from Mexico to Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail by Green Planet Films and more obscure and out of print RESOULED on the Pacific Crest Trail by John Oldford. And maybe even someday I'll release my very meager 3 days on the Bib Track.

New week sees the realease of my Bob Butler interview. If you want to get ahead of the game, search for Trailcast on Archive.org and listen to his back catalog of shows. They are definitely worth it.

And special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

**Title:** S01E04  
**Date:** 27th May, 2023  
**Time:** 11 AM EST  
**Duration:** 60 min to 90 min  
**Host:** David McFee  
**Guests:** Robert Butler

**Introduction:**

I will produce the intro separately. I'll introduce you then. It frees us to just jump straight into questions. And just so you know - I am not saying we will hit all of these. And these are only here to give you a heads up in case you want to think about it ahead of time.

Questions for JB:

1. You started Trailcast in April 2005 with Miss Janet. What made you want to do a podcast? What did you know about podcasting?
2. Where did you get your idea for it from? Do you have a background in journalism at all?
3. Did you follow any other podcasts? Is listening to podcasts something you do?
4. Why Hiking?
5. What is your background in hiking and the like? I remember you once mentioned a canoe trip in Minnesota.
6. What were your expectations for the podcast? What did you want to learn?
7. You produced 27 episodes before you ended the show in April 2006. How difficult were they to produce? How long did it take - what was your process?
8. How did you choose who to interview?
9. What was your favourite interview and why?
10. Did you ever scrap an interview?
11. Did you ever want to interview someone, didn't, but wished you had and who was it and why?

12. Why did you finally end the show? If I remember correctly, you got caught up in Katrina and the aftermath, correct?
13. What was the feedback like? I remember it being talked about on WhiteBlaze.
14. Other than me, do you ever get any feedback still about the show? It was popular. Popular enough that Bob Cartwright of the Outdoors Station interviewed you back in 2007 to find out what had happened to you.
15. What do you think of what podcasting has become? The tech and so forth? Do you wish it was this easy when you were doing it? Do you think you would have continued if you had?
16. What are you doing now? What is your relationship to hiking now? People speculated for a while that you ended the podcast to hike the AT. Did anything like that ever happen?
17. The world of 2005 was a very different one to that of 2023. Do you have an opinion on how that has affected the world of thru hiking?
18. Is there anything we haven't covered that you would like to?

### ***Wrap-up***

The PCT hiker is Billy Goat

What is a yo-yo in hiking?

Usually, in thruhiking culture, a “yoyo” refers to a hike that traverses the length of a trail and then, upon reaching the end of the trail, the hiker turns around and hikes the entire length of the trail again, going in the opposite direction.

Flipflopping...



>> Bob Butler

Skippycast, a podcast about Hobolike Travel. This interview is a homage to the what was my inspiration for the podcast, Bob Bulter's Trailcast – all 27 episodes are available on Archive.org. About a month ago I reached out to Bob again to see if he was interested in chatting about his show and this is the product. Now it is a long show, so I don't want to spend too much time rambling, but it was so much fun. And without further ado, here is my interview with Bob Butler.

Now that was another long episode, but largely because I just really enjoyed chatting to Bob. And I am so grateful he was willing to participate. The next interview is a return to regular porgamiing and will be an interview with either Bobby Abrahamson or Steve Roberts. Both hobos in their own rights. I am not sure which will com first, as neither are recorded as yet. After that, I am at a loss. I would love to speak to someone on a boat – Youtuber Sam Holmes comes to mind, or maybe a rail hopper. I don't know if anyone is familiar with Jim Stobie (Stobe the Hobo) but someone of his ilk would be awesome. Sadly, Jim Stobe was killed doing what he loved, but his amazing videos are still on Youtube. Anyway, I am open to suggestions.

And finally special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

**Title:** Riding the Dirty Dog: Interview with Bobby Abrahamson  
**Date:** 2023/07/23  
**Time:** 5PM ET  
**Duration:** 40 min

**Introduction:**

A brief introduction on how I came to interview you, who you are based on your website and bio - I will add this in post. I will add details of greyhound.

**Show Story Arc:**

Start with a quick chat or Riding the Dog and how that article got me to your book. Start with a run down of the book. Move to how you got to the book, your background, how you feel about your 'rabbit' lifestyle. Basically cover anything up to setting off on greyhound. Talk about the trip, the people, the photos, the lifestyle. Compare and contrast the world of then to the world of now - post 9-11. Talk about other projects. Where you are now. What you have been doing. Wrap it up.

**Show Questions:**

You're not the topic of riding the dirty dog, but that's how I got to you. Do you hold any similarity to the story presented?

Who is Bobby Abrahamson?

What's your background? Talk about your background in photojournalism.

Have you always been a photographer and where does that come from?

How did you get to making One Summer Across America, your inspiration?

Your intro mentions Jack Kerouac. How much was he an inspiration and why? Are there others and why?

>> Your intro is awesome. It's exactly how I feel or felt in 99. Words like anonymity, freedom, no future, no past, just the moment.

How did you plan from that kernel of inspiration, what affairs did you need to get in order to be able to let go?

You hitched a ride to start. Have you always done things like that? Were you solo?

I hadn't read Baggage Room at Greyhound, but I did watch the 1989 documentary riding the dog. Why Greyhound? Have you read much on greyhound? What was your experience before this trip, your relationship with Greyhound? Had you used it before?

You did 3months in summer. What was the pass you used? How much was it?

Now the author of the dirty dog article the scam of riding for free. You obviously took a different path. Did you feel negative, positive, or undetermined about the type of people you would meet? We're they your people?

Commented [1]: They were very stylish. Scenicruser

Commented [2]: Greyhound Ameripass

Commented [3]: My experience with Frontier

I've ridden busses all my life. I'd never had a negative impression of them. Public transport is normal to me, but abnormal here. Why do you think that is?

Now the people I saw on my 2 eventful and long (24hr) - Auburn AL to Missouri trips still hold with me, even though it was almost 25yrs ago. The guy I shared a cigarette in Birmingham, the Amish I saw in St Louis, the woman who lost her mind when I reclined my seat in the dead of night, they all left an impression.

You saw and photographed a lot of people, how many were riding with you? What were the people like that you rode with?

What was the path you took, the towns you visited? How did you meet people along the way, was the camera your icebreaker?

I love your pictures, and all your content. Some many great human shots in time. When you take a photo, I'm guessing there spur of the moment. How do you get a release? I'm guessing you need something like that to publish. Do you shoot first and ask for permission later?

You photographed a lot, but how much did you talk? What do you think opened people up? Do you think people just have a natural predisposition to tell you who they are? Why or why not? Where did you find your greatest characters?

What were your favourite stories, both personal and those of others? Did you keep a diary of anocdotes?

It was a 60-day bus pass - how did that work? Aside from the people, what was the experience like being on Greyhound for that long? Cleanliness, fatigue, emotional strain or lack there of?

How did you live on the road? Where did you eat, sleep? Did you focus on the human natarive alone, or did you observe the natural world as well?

What was the most difficult part?

What was it that you enjoyed the most?

How did you feel when it was over?

What can you say you learnt?

When did your journey end exactly? It was before 9-11, what do you feel the mood was like in the US then, pre 9-11, and how does that contrast to today?

Your content seems exclusively in a pre social media dominated world. What do you feel of the constant capturing today? How do you think it differs from what you did?

Are there still fascinating people, or are all the people too busy trying to be fascinating? The Instagram world.

Have you ridden Greyhound since? The Dirty Dog article touches on how modern Greyhound is a sanitized version of its former self. My expertise has been similar. One of the joys, or pains, of travel was getting to know the person next to you. It seems to be lost as people focus on their phones. Do you feel this? Do you think you would, could, have a similar experience today? Why or why not?

You've used different media. Polaroid, film, super 8. What do you like to use the most and why?

**Commented [4]:** I rode greyhound from Auburn AL to Missouri, swore I would never do it again, and then rode it from Missouri to Auburn. The first trip I remember well, the second hardly at all.

**Commented [5]:** We left the world of anonymity behind when 9-11 happened. It would only increase until now we all carry out own personal snitch. We swapped anonymity for convience.

**Commented [6]:** The phone has become a shield in the same way as a book once was, but the book would end. It was only light armor by comparison. Connected but always alone. I think I smoked back then as much for the conversation as anything. Breaking the ice for Ellie. The 10 o'clock people.

Why get to know strangers when you can talk to people you already know on a device.

**Commented [7]:** One of the joys, or sentences, of travel was getting to know the person next to you. I couldn't tell you anyone I say on a flight next to in the last 15yrs, but there was I time I could name them all. I still vividly remember some people from the 1990s. The rashneshy who...

**Commented [8]:** Polaroid as a medium anecdote

Rabbit looks an interesting book. Can we talk a little about it?

What have you done since? Have you finally settled down?

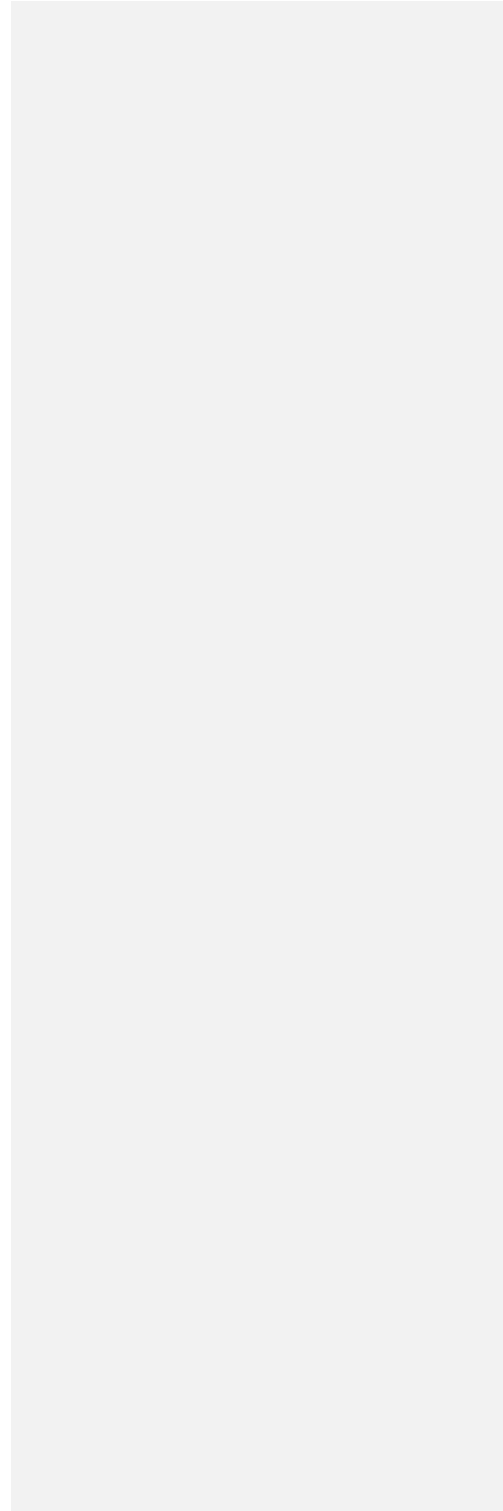
What do you do now and how do you scratch the adventure itch?

Is there anything else you want to say?

What are contact details and how can you be reached?

The scam of riding for free makes me nostalgic for the early 00s. The Wild West of getting music for free, movies, Subway coupons. Some of those scams existed up until recently. The free sub at Firehouse

I wonder if people stand out at all anymore. You had to commit them to memory then. Now you can film them and hold onto them forever. I liked the ephemeral nature of life, but then part of me wants to remember everything. Plumbys list of stories. My not remembering the second greyhound.



**Title:** The Original Technomad: Interview with Steven K Roberts  
**Date:** 2023-08-19

### ***Introduction:***

I have quite a love of bikes and bike touring. It goes back a long way, at least the idea does. I remember reading Enid Blyton's the famous five when I was 11 and every book they seemed to be spending the summer hols peddling the moors in search of adventure. As an adult I rediscovered what a biking adventure would mean as I was at the university of Missouri and learnt of the Katy Trail. Learning about rails to trails accessed those dormant memories of long ago. I don't think there is a better way to travel. I didn't get my first serious trail under my belt until the C2C in 2015, after dreaming for years. And I always promised I would do the Katy as soon as I was able. But I have so many dreams. Munda Biddi, Cycling to Key West on the A1A, The cowboy trail in Nebraska.

Great American Rail-Trail

<https://famousfivestyle.wordpress.com/2009/06/10/planning/>

That interest in bike touring it was natural that...

In this interview I talk to Steve Roberts about his journey into nomadism. And I switch between the terms nomad and hobo, but I suppose a hobo is technically a migratory worker or a traveller willing to work and a nomad is a wanderer with no fixed abode, but a hobo is a nomad, but not all nomads are hobos. And then there are tramps, who are penniless and avoid work. Hobo is more often used as a pejorative, intertwined with tramp. But I have love for them all. But since Steve took his work on the road, let's say he is a digital nomad.

And I have read so many quotes to differentiate hobo. One I liked was 'A nomad is a person who travels freely without ties holding them back. A hobo is a person who is no longer trapped in the society of capitalism and time.'

But back to Steve. I met him through our joint interests of digitizing old home movies and back packing. One day I got this friend request from a stranger on the book of faces and decided to check him out. Steve, much like Bobby Abrahamson, was able to parlay their 'nomadic' behaviour into a career pre social media and influencer. But Steve bets first the original influencer mode. He was digital when very few but the geeks knew what digital was. He was in many ways the original influencer with his presence on compuserve and other digital forums, and that begat a book and tv interviews and the many wanting to know 'who the hell was this strange man on the strange bike. So, to my interview with Steve Roberts.

### ***Show Story Arc:***

Start with a quick intro chat on our shared love of bike packing and film digitizing. Continue with a run down of your book, the lead up, your background - Basically cover Winibiko 1. Talk about the trip, the people, the photos, the lifestyle. Go through the other bike iterations, ones that didn't have a book deal. Talk about the progression to boats. Finish with where you are now. What you have been doing. Wrap it up.

### ***Show Questions:***

I say hobo, but you say nomad. What do you think the difference is and why do you think you're attracted to nomadism?

Most of society seems to follow the same story arc. Birth, school, career, marriage, kids, retirement, death. That story arc doesn't leave a lot of time for adventure unless you break with convention. Reading your book, you very much did this. What triggered that break for you?

Who is Steve Roberts? Your background? You are very open about being adopted: Does that have any role to play? Your education path? How you became a geek, because it is a central theme in your adventure?

You didn't enjoy paying for things you didn't need or really want. I feel that. Many do. It's like with hiking. How much can you reduce your comfort to maximize your freedom?

I think I got this quote from your book or blog: Suburbia is a prison where success is measured in dollars instead of happiness. Why do you think that is a problem? What do you think holds people back?

I've read your book, *Computing Across America*, and I see you now have a Wikipedia article. I should set the scene: It was 1983 - Deep in Reagan's America. It was quite a different time. How much of that determined your direction? What were you feeling and what was the seed of your trip?

So you're freelance writing. You've got one of the few professions at the time that genuinely allows you to work from home - can you think of any others? When did you think: I don't need all this to do what I do?

I read your blog and I came across a reference to wanting to RV the country before the bike. Why did that never bear fruit? And why a bike and not a car or something of that ilk?

Was this your first big travel adventure?

So much of life is about having enough money, and we talked that you could do your job on the road, but where did the money come from? You didn't anticipate that you would make the same as you were, right? It was about scaling down the need for income and affording more time for adventure, wasn't it?

Now there was very much a 'wing and a promise' nature to the start of your trip. To say you neatly buttoned everything up ignores you still had a house in suburbia and relationships to break when you head out. How hard was that? Did you ever get the feeling you would turn back? What was the process?

Now you got a book deal. You talk very much about the relief of it. Did you always have that in mind? Up to that point you had written technical books, but this wasn't the same. How did the book deal come about? What sort of memoir did you think the book would be? Did you have any other books in mind?

Now you got a lot of media attention as you rode. Who ran your publicity? How did that work, because you did have some support on the home front, correct? Most mail was still analog.

So you hit the road: First, where did you go and how long did it take all up?

What were some of your best experiences?

What were some of your worst?

I really enjoyed your book, but as much for its historical value. Your storytelling was rich in florida but thin in Cal. How many photos and stories never made print?

When I read your book, you often delve in romance and the downright salaciousness of the times. And I think people forget that it wasn't so long ago that this was the norm, but especially in the 60s, 70s and 80s. We regularly say 'couldn't make that today', but love, sex, romance is very much part of life's journey. And we are living in times of Tinder and online dating. And there's a difference between now and then, often for the better today. Clearer boundaries of consent being one of them, especially when it comes to the power dynamic in the workplace. But your's were the run of

the mill for the times. How do you feel about writing from that angle today? There's definitely a "Looking Glass' Brandy (You're a Fine Girl)" feel to your travels. The difference being you replaced the sea for the road. How much of that do you think comes from the 60s and 70s, and do you think people struggle to understand the time because of where we came from? I mean, you were in the military during Vietnam. The second world war wasn't that far in the rear view. Nuclear War and annihilation was a constant companion.

Was hedonism part of it for you?

Your compuserve chat was another interesting angle of this. For those people that live in the Apple I-world, they couldn't possibly understand text based flirting. How chat rooms worked. You had the interesting dichotomy of the real world/virtual world before pretty much anyone. Want to talk a little bit about Compuserve and what it was? Why was it so important? How did the chat rooms work in practice? You didn't just use them for romance, but the romantic side of it brings the most humour - you got catfished before catfishing was a term, right? Now without internet you couldn't have worked and traveled at the same time, but even if you had been independently wealthy you wouldn't have enjoyed the travel as much without the internet. Is that fair to say? Did applying tech and travel and geekery of problem solving made the experience richer? Can you explain how? Which was more important, the travel or the geekery?

Now the book deal wasn't everything you wanted it to be. Can you talk about the trials and tribulations of that?

So the first journey ended, but that was Winibiko 1. That was the book. Who started calling after your first trip? How did life change?

But your bike journey didn't stop there. What was Winibiko 2 and how did that come about?

How was that journey different?

How come no book 2?

You did a lot of media for that one. How did that change your life?

And then the final stage in the trilogy was the Behemoth. You were on Donahue with that one. What was Behemoth?

There was a ton of very expensive tech on Behemoth, where did it come from? Who worked on it?

You only did about 1000 miles on Behemoth. Why?

The bikes were a trilogy of sorts. How did your life change across the different iterations?

Your transition from bike to boat was something. What was Microship and why?

Microchip was a 10yr journey, how do you fund it? I'm assuming these weren't completely self funded, although you still worked as a 'journalist', how did you get company buy in? How did that work? You talk about nickel generators and plugging leaks. Can we talk about that?

You mentioned that you wanted to somewhat futureproof the concept, but it became a 10yr odyssey. How did that meld with your wanting to be nomadic?

Through Behemoth and Microship, you spent a lot of time in development. Did development become more fun than adventure? Because this was supposed to be a world lifestyle and journey. Why didn't that happen?

Microship became Nomadness which became Datawake - Can you give the motivation for Microship on and the end result.

What do you see as your most successful phase?

Where are you now and what are you doing?

One of the elephants in the room from your book is the transient nature of interpersonal relationships. Another quote attributed to you is that 'You are primarily responsible for your own life and not the expectations of others.' That is going to hit some people hard. We interweave ourselves into the lives of others, and as you mentioned yourself you had a small child when you head out. Would you change anything there? How do you feel about that now? As Sinatra said, you did it your way, but do you have any regrets? - I want to be sensitive and non judgy, so we can talk about how to play this and how raw you want to be. In the post I want to talk a little about how my daughter affects me. I will definitely let you listen ahead of time so it meets your approval.

Talking tech for a bit, you see how the world has changed. So many tech nomads. What do you think your legacy is? Are you envious of what people have now? What would you do if you reverse aging and start again today?

Finish with your website and how people can contact you.

>>> Outro

Steve is an interesting guy and one whose technical abilities and groundbreaking achievements I admire greatly. And I say that with a little trepidation. When I met Steve I was in the process of a particularly contentious divorce. My exwife and I were never really suited. I always wanted to be a wanderer, but she wasn't on that frequency. So after over a decade of push pull, neither of us getting what we wanted, we had a child. It's not in the scope of this podcast to discuss the dynamics of my marriage, but safe to say things didn't improve. I got pushed into AHD status, something I resented greatly, and the marriage finally broke down. In divorce I was financially and emotionally pushed to the brink. I had to seriously consider that I would have to leave the US, abandon my life here, and my daughter. For anyone who knows me, knows the absolute love I have for my daughter, it was a dark, dark time. But in a strange way, it was realization that this was my emergency escape plan other than going broke that saved me. If I had had to do that, I would have wandered. I would never have settled again. I would have chosen hedonism. And part of me would have wanted it, but there is a cost. Steve paid that cost, but of course it was his cost to pay. Nomads do make that choice. If you choose to be permanently nomadic, at least until you get past that child rearing age, you have sacrifices to make. We are seeing a lot of people today make that choice. Your youth is your most productive time of life. How do you want to spend it? Work, travel, kids - what do you value? And to be honest, I think if America could solve the healthcare conundrum, you couldn't get people to work as hard as they do. You would get more people opting out of the 'regular life'.

I think it would be easy to throw shade on choosing the life you want, but you have one life to live. You do have to be honest to those feelings. I couldn't do it. As much as I always wanted to be free - and those reasons are more varied than not wanting responsibility - I studied Enviro Science. I am not an optimist when it comes to the future. I early on wanted to skirt society's problems. Yes, have a beneficial impact where possible, but I didn't want to be vested in the success or failure of my efforts. Having a child made me unable to keep society's problems at arms length. I was invested. And when you love someone as much as I love my daughter, that is incredibly painful.

My next episode doesn't exist. I want most to interview a rail hopper, preferably female. I also have been toying with the idea of speaking to someone who has experience road tripping as a black American during America's green book era. My ex's family used to make the pilgrimage from Birmingham AL to Miami in the 50s along the Dixie Hwy. I have seen the joyous 8mm film, but that was a very white experience.

You have to find someone who is running at the same frequency

You don't often do it for as long or I get to see someone go full circle

How long have you had your website and how has that activity changed?

I think Facebook and the digital giants have killed the independent. You have to work in their framework.

The boats on Antigua from far afield, the man in hillaries, Ken and his catamaran

The reduction of things and 27 items

I grew up with towards 2000

**Title:** The Bibbulmun and beyond: Interview with Kevin McCormick  
**Date:** ~~June 14<sup>th</sup> 2016~~ - Unproduced

***Introduction:***

A brief introduction on how I know you and who you are - I will add this in post.

***Show Story Arc:***

We are going to start with adventure travel and what you've done - we can talk about your travel through Israel etc. – you name it. Talk about what led to your wanderlust. We will then move on the bulk of the interview, which is the 99 Bibbulmun Track trip – all the way from conception, to planning, to the journey. We will finish with what you've done since, what you do to satisfy the urge to travel, and where's next?

***Show Questions:***

What was your first big trip and what was the reason behind it?

Were you always a travel junkie?

Where have you been?

So how come you decided to do the Bibbulmun Track; how did that come about?

What was the process?

You went solo?

Where did you go?

How long did it take?

Was it everything you expected?

What was the most difficult part?

What was it that you enjoyed the most?

Was it more for testing yourself or something more spiritual?

How did you feel when it was over?

What can you say you learnt?

What's next?

So what do you do now and how do you scratch the adventure itch?

(Are you comfortable with handing out a Twitter handle etc.?)

**Title:** Trailside: Make Your Own Adventure: Interview with Steve Vocino  
**Date:** ~~Sept 2018~~ Unproduced

### ***Introduction:***

Welcome to Skippycast, the show about Hobo-like Travel. The date is < insert date > and I'm your host, David McFee.

Welcome once again, this time to the 3rd Episode of Skippycast. Now this may be a little early in the run to change direction, but for a some time now I have been interested in the television show Trailside. In fact, I started a modest little fan page on Facebook that has gathered about 60 followers in 4 years.

For those of you who don't know, Trailside was a How to Outdoor Show on PBS back in 1993. According to its Wikipedia entry, it spanned 10 seasons and 154 Episodes; however, you'll be hard pressed to find copies of of them beyond the first 3.

So what's this interview about? After a number of years searching and messaging - even going so far as look up business records - I was able to track down the show's sponsor, producer, publisher and distributor, Steve Vocino. From what I understand, Steve's company TLN Productions based out of West Palm Beach, Florida took over New Media, the previous production company after the second season. And there has been a cry - well, more whimper of discontent - from people, myself included, who are interested in DVDs and catching up on the old show.

So that's where we are. This is a show dedicated to Trailside. And if you haven't seen the show, I particularly recommend the double episode on Hiking the AT

### ***Show Story Arc:***

Start with your background and how you got involved in Trailside,

### ***Show Questions:***

Call intro:

Welcome Steve and thanks for joining me. Now it must seem a little like ghosts of times past with respect to Trailside, since it has been off the air for a little over a decade, is that correct?

< Respond

When I messaged you, my first question was "did you produce Trailside?" You responded with "sponsored, produced, publish and distributed the series." But you didn't do the first 2 series, correct?

< Respond

How did you come about taking it over?

< Respond

Well, to give you a little background on why I'm interested, I came to Trailside through an eBay purchase back in 2008. I was big into searching hiking films, and got about a dozen or season 1 & 2 VHS tapes with John Viehman as the host. And that lead me to trying to find more, and ultimately to finding you.

< So you had Trailside for latter half of it's run, were you involved before then?

< How did you come about taking it over? (I know Backpacker pulled out, but don't really know the reasons of if it was acrimonious or not. Are you comfortable answering questions about this?)

< Now TLC was run out of West Palm Beach - in fact quite by accident - I just happened to be walking home along Daltura and saw the logo - How long have you been gone from TLC or is it still operating?

< What is your background and have you always made outdoor type shows?

< Ignore my naivety, but were you on location for the shoots?

< Trailside covered the gamut of outdoor activities and places. How did you decide where to go?

< How long did a shoot last?

< What was it like?

< What did you hope to achieve with Trailside?

< Do you have a favourite episode?

< Why did the show end?

< Where is the archive now?

< You had a couple of episodes up on Vimeo, is there ever a chance you could put them all up - I assume a DVD release would be cost prohibitive?

< So in closing, what are you up to now?

< Do you wish you had access to what they have now for production?

< Are there any shows you are watching of recommend?

Outro

# SkippyCast

## The Hobo-like Travel Podcast



(<https://skippycast.org/>).



So1 Eo7 Interview with Bobby Abrahamson about his time “Ridin’ the Dirty Dog” and the subsequent book “One Summer Across America” – Part 2  
(<https://skippycast.org/s01-e06-interview-with-bobby-abrahamson-about-his-time-ridin-the-dirty-dog-and-the-subsequent-book-one-summer-across-america-part-2/>).

🕒 October 27, 2023 (<https://skippycast.org/s01-e06-interview-with-bobby-abrahamson-about-his-time-ridin-the-dirty-dog-and-the-subsequent-book-one-summer-across-america-part-2/>)

👤 Skippy (<https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/>).

In this episode, David McFee talks to Bobby Abrahamson about his 2000 & 2001 journeys around the US using a Greyhound bus Ameripass and the subsequent book “One Summer Across America” (<https://www.bobbyabrahamson.com/onesummer/>).

If you would like to reach out to Bobby, here is the link to his website (<https://www.bobbyabrahamson.com/>).

If you want to read the Vice article that was initial inspiration for this podcast, it can be found [here](https://www.vice.com/en/article/av4g54/riding-the-dirty-dog-0000177-v20n12) (<https://www.vice.com/en/article/av4g54/riding-the-dirty-dog-0000177-v20n12>).

If you want to watch the BBC documentary “Ridin’ the Dog”, it can be found [here](https://youtu.be/BaaaqJm4xJM?si=AtJM46NKPd4BWq79) (<https://youtu.be/BaaaqJm4xJM?si=AtJM46NKPd4BWq79>).

If you want to watch the InteRail documentary “40 Years on Track”, it can be found [here](https://youtu.be/fFP8qmlbsnM?si=7cX4mnnvpr7DKlbg) (<https://youtu.be/fFP8qmlbsnM?si=7cX4mnnvpr7DKlbg>).

David McFee’s “Old Home Movie vLog” showing orphaned 16mm, 8mm and Super-8 film can be found [here](https://www.youtube.com/@oldhomemovievlog204) (<https://www.youtube.com/@oldhomemovievlog204>).

This interview was recorded July 20th, 2023, but was produced October 16th, 2023.

Special thanks to the band’s Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

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[So1 Eo6 Interview with Bobby Abrahamson about his time “Ridin’ the Dirty Dog” and the subsequent book “One Summer Across America” – Part 1 \(https://skippycast.org/so1-eo6-interview-with-bobby-abrahamson-bout-his-time-ridin-the-dirty-dog-and-the-subsequent-book-one-summer-across-america-part-1/\)](https://skippycast.org/so1-eo6-interview-with-bobby-abrahamson-bout-his-time-ridin-the-dirty-dog-and-the-subsequent-book-one-summer-across-america-part-1/)

🕒 [October 16, 2023 \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e06-interview-with-bobby-abrahamson-bout-his-time-ridin-the-dirty-dog-and-the-subsequent-book-one-summer-across-america-part-1/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e06-interview-with-bobby-abrahamson-bout-his-time-ridin-the-dirty-dog-and-the-subsequent-book-one-summer-across-america-part-1/)

👤 [Skippy \(https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/\)](https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/)

In this episode, David McFee talks to Bobby Abrahamson about his 2000 & 2001 journeys around the US using a Greyhound bus Ameripass and the subsequent book “[One Summer Across America](https://www.bobbyabrahamson.com/onesummer)” (<https://www.bobbyabrahamson.com/onesummer>).

If you would like to reach out to Bobby, here is the link to his [website \(https://www.bobbyabrahamson.com/\)](https://www.bobbyabrahamson.com/).

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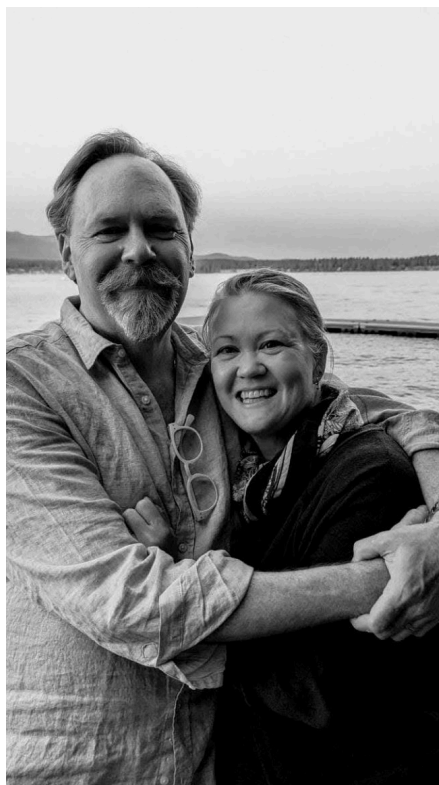
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## [So1 Eo5 Interview with Bob Butler, host and creator of the hiking podcast, Trailcast \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e05-interview-with-bob-butler-host-and-creator-of-the-hiking-podcast-trailcast/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e05-interview-with-bob-butler-host-and-creator-of-the-hiking-podcast-trailcast/)

🕒 [August 11, 2023 \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e05-interview-with-bob-butler-host-and-creator-of-the-hiking-podcast-trailcast/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e05-interview-with-bob-butler-host-and-creator-of-the-hiking-podcast-trailcast/)

👤 [Skippy \(https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/\)](https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/)

In this episode, David McFee talks to Bob Butler, host and creator of the hiking podcast [Trailcast: Podcasting on Foot. \(https://archive.org/details/Trailcast-PodcastingOnFoot\\_283\)](https://archive.org/details/Trailcast-PodcastingOnFoot_283) Bob's website is archived here "[Trailcast \(https://web.archive.org/web/20071216211426/http://www.trailcast.org/page/2/\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20071216211426/http://www.trailcast.org/page/2/)".



This interview was recorded May 28, 2023, but was produced July 12th, 2023.

Special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

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## [S01 E04 Interview with John Viehman, Host for the PBS television show Trailside \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e04-interview-with-john-viehman-host-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e04-interview-with-john-viehman-host-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/)

🕒 [August 4, 2023 \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e04-interview-with-john-viehman-host-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e04-interview-with-john-viehman-host-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/)

👤 [Skippy \(https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/\)](https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/)

In this episode, David McFee talks to John Viehman about his time as host of the PBS television show, Trailside.

This interview was recorded May 18, 2023, but was produced July 12th, 2023.

Trailside: Make Your Own Adventure was a six-time Emmy-nominated series that brought the outdoors to millions of viewers each week. The series premiered in 1993 and, at its peak, was available to over 80 million households via Public Television.

Special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

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## [S01 E03 The Man with the Chevy Van: Interview with John Clagett. \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e03-the-man-with-the-chevy-van-interview-with-john-clagett/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e03-the-man-with-the-chevy-van-interview-with-john-clagett/)

🕒 [July 28, 2023 \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e03-the-man-with-the-chevy-van-interview-with-john-clagett/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e03-the-man-with-the-chevy-van-interview-with-john-clagett/)

👤 [Skippy \(https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/\)](https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/)

In this episode, David McFee talks to John Clagett about his time as travelling in the US in a Chevy Conversion van.

This interview was recorded September 24th, 2018, but was the final show produced July 11th, 2023.



Special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

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[So1 Eo2 Interview with Nan Mandes, Production Manager for the PBS television show Trailside. \(https://skippycast.org/s01-e02-interview-with-nan-mandes-production-manager-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/\)](https://skippycast.org/s01-e02-interview-with-nan-mandes-production-manager-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/)

🕒 July 21, 2023 (<https://skippycast.org/s01-e02-interview-with-nan-mandes-production-manager-for-the-pbs-television-show-trailside/>)

👤 Skippy (<https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/>)

In this episode, David McFee talks to Nan Mandes about her time as Production Manager for the PBS television show, [Trailside \(https://www.youtube.com/@trailside9010\)](https://www.youtube.com/@trailside9010).

This interview was recorded June 11, 2018, but was produced July 11th, 2023.

Trailside: Make Your Own Adventure was a six-time Emmy-nominated series that brought the outdoors to millions of viewers each week. The series premiered in 1993 and, at its peak, was available to over 80 million households via Public Television.

Special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to SkippyCast.



Mountain Biking in Utah.



Sea Kayaking in Baja.



Staff and Crew in Westport Connecticut Offices.



Pilot Episode: Smoky Mountains Crew with John Viehman. Steve Samuels (next to John Viehman) and Matt Cohen (Supervising Producer).



Nan Mandes suited up for the Rainforest Hiking in Puerto Rico.



Sea Kayaking in Baja.

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Podcast: [Play in new window \(https://archive.org/download/S01E02SkippyCast/S01E02-SkippyCast.mp3\)](https://archive.org/download/S01E02SkippyCast/S01E02-SkippyCast.mp3) |  
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## [So1 Eo1 Vagabonding and the Bibbulmun Track: Interview with Jodie McLean.](https://skippycast.org/s01-e01-vagabonding-and-the-bibbulmun-track-interview-with-jodie-mclean/) (https://skippycast.org/s01-e01-vagabonding-and-the-bibbulmun-track-interview-with-jodie-mclean/)

© July 13, 2023 (<https://skippycast.org/s01-e01-vagabonding-and-the-bibbulmun-track-interview-with-jodie-mclean/>)  
[Skippy \(https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/\)](https://skippycast.org/author/skippy/)



In this the inaugural episode, David McFee talks to Jodie McLean about her 2016 Bibbulmun Track thru-hike.



Modeled on the Appalachian Trail, the Bibbulmun Track opened in 1979 for Western Australia's 150th anniversary. Extending from Kalamunda, just south of Perth, to Albany in the state's southwest, the Bib Track as it is colloquially known, is 1,003.1 kilometres (623.3 mi) long.

[Bibbulmun Track Foundation \(https://www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au/\)](https://www.bibbulmuntrack.org.au/)

This interview was recorded Sept 1, 2016, but was produced Sept 9, 2018.

Special thanks to the band's Tom Jode and Kelly Vice for providing music for the show and of course, thank you to you all for listening to Skippycast.

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## SkippyCast Promo (<https://skippycast.org/launching-end-of-october/>)

🕒 September 20, 2016 (<https://skippycast.org/launching-end-of-october/>)    👤  
[dmcfree](https://skippycast.org/author/dmcfree/) (<https://skippycast.org/author/dmcfree/>)

You've come to the home of Skippycast, the podcast about hobo like travel. Whether it's with a backpack, VW combi, or bindle, the only rule is that travel is unfettered by time schedules, work and other rat-race constraints.

This is the promo used on the 'SAHDPod Live' podcast.

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